

Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 03397 132126Z

67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-10 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-15 CPR-02 DRC-01 /152 W

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O R 132050Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1764

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE YAOUNDE 3397

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CM, IS,/F

SUBJECT: CAMEROON BREAKS RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

REF: YAOUNDE 3374; YAOUNDE 3335

1. CAMEROON ANNOUNCED TODAY OCT 13 GURC DECISION BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. ACCORDING RADIO CAMEROON, PRESIDENT AHIDJO ANNOUNCED DECISION THIS MORNING TO JOINT MEETING OF MINISTERS AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF CAMEROON NATIONAL UNION (POLITICAL PARTY). PRESIDENT BLAMED ISRAEL FOR RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES IN MIDDLE EAST, APPARENTLY SINCE ISREAL HAD ARROGANTLY MAINTAINED POSITION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES DESPITE WORLD OPINION. DREW PARALLE BETWEEN ARAB STRUGGLE AND THAT OF AFRICANS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. REAFFIRMED SUPPORT FOR UNSC RES 242 CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. DECISION DESCRIBED AS IN ACCORD WITH CAMEROON'S STATUS AS OAU MEMBER IN COLLABORATION WITH ORGANIZATIONS'S UWAB MEMBERS.

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2. DECISION WAS FORESHADOWED BY EXTREMELY STRONG PRO-ARAB EDITORIAL ON RADIO CAMEROON YESTERDAY EVENING WHICH SPOKE OF SOLIDARITY WITH ARABS AS REQUIRED INTER ALIA BY (1) DEFENDING SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF AOU MEMBER STATE AND (2) SUPPORTING COUNTRIES WHICH HAD NEVER SPARED THEIR SUPPORT FOR AFRICAN PEOPLES IN STRUGGLE AGAINST COLONIALISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ISRAELI AMBASSADOR WAS PROJECTING OPTIMISM AS RECENTLY AS TWO DAYS AGO AND APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY SURPRISE BY AHIDJO'S MOVE, IN OUR VIEW, CAMEROON'S BREAK WITH ISREAL WAS FAST BECOMING INEVITABLE. WE BELIEVE IT WAS IN THE CARDS EVEN BEFORE THE CURRENT OUTBREAK OF HOSILITIES. THE HOSILITIES SPEEDED UP THE TIMING.
MOORE

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